

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 204580

21 16

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 RSC-01 IO-14 ISO-00

PCH-08 EB-11 AID-20 OMB-01 USSS-00 INRE-00 CCO-00

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19

INT-08 COME-00 SIL-01 LAB-06 SCEM-02 /227 R

DRAFTED BY NEA TASK FORCE:MSTERNER:P

APPROVED BY NEA TASK FORCE:MSTERNER

S/S-O MR. WRIGHT

----- 115672

O 160911Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

USDEL SALT TWO IMMEDIATE

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

JCS/NMCC IMMEDIATE

CINCEUR IMMEDIATE

CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

CINCRED IMMEDIATE

CSA IMMEDIATE

CSAF IMMEDIATE

CNO IMMEDIATE

CMC IMMEDIATE

MAC SCOTT AFB ILL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH

AMCONSUL CURACAO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

S E C R E T STATE 204580

INFORM CONSULS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 204580

KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT DOHA

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:XX

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

1. FOLLOWING FYI IS MIDDLE EAST SITUATION THROUGH EVENING
OCTOBER 15:

2. COMBAT SCENE. ALTHOUGH FIGHTING CONTINUED OCTOBER 15,
THERE WERE NO MAJOR CHANGES IN BATTLE LINES. ISRAELIS
GAINED SOME GROUND IN SYRIA; BUT TERRAIN WAS DIFFICULT
AND SYRIANS CONTINUED TO FIGHT WELL FROM PREPARED DEFENSIVE
POSITIONS. ISRAELI OFFENSIVE MAY ALSO HAVE SLOWED BECAUSE
THEY BELIEVE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF CRIPPLING SYRIAN ARMY
HAS BEEN SUFFICIENTLY ATTAINED TO ENABLE THEM TO SHIFT SOME
OF THEIR FORCES TO SINAI FRONT. IN SINAI THERE WAS ONLY
MINOR GROUND ACTION BUT BOTH SIDES SALLIED FORTH WITH NUMER-
OUS - AIR ATTACKS.

3. IN SYRIA, ISRAELI FORCES PRESSED CLOSER TO ROAD LEADING
SOUTH OUT OF DAMASCUS TO SHEIKH MISHKIN, WITH IDF CLAIMING
TO HAVE RENDERED THE IRAQI DIVISION INEFFECTIVE. ISRAELIS
CLAIMED TO HAVE INITIATIVE THROUGHOUT SYRIAN FRONT. PROGRESS
REMAINED SLOW AND PAINFUL, HOWEVER, AND FRESH SYRIAN ARMORED
BRIGADE PLUS NEW IRAQI DIVISION ARE REPORTEDLY MOVING UP TO
TRY TO HOLD LINE IN SOUTHERN SECTOR OF GOLAN. BATTLE THUS

MOVED CLOSER TO SECTOR OF GOLAN CONTAINING JORDANIAN
BRIGADE, AND THERE WERE OTHER INDICATIONS THAT KING
HUSSEIN MAY FEEL COMPELLED TO COMMIT HIS TROOPS TO FIGHT-
ING SOON. A KUWAITI BRIGADE IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN
DESPATCHED SYRIA AND BY NIGHTFALL 15 OCTOBER SAUDI UNITS
WERE IN POSITION TO JOIN FIGHTING (ALTHOUGH OBVIOUSLY NOT
EAGER TO DO SO). IN ISRAELI ESTIMATE, SOVIET RESUPPLY
WILL ALLOW SYRIA TO RECOUP SUFFICIENTLY TO PUT BACK INTO
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 204580

ACTION UNITS PREVIOUSLY KNOCKED OUT OF THE BATTLE LINE.
SOVIET RESUPPLY FLIGHTS TO DATE HAVE EXCEEDED 300. HEAVY
SOVIET EQUIPMENT IS ALSO BEGINNING TO COME INTO SYRIA BY
SHIP.

4. IN THE SOUTH, ISRAELIS REPULSED NEW EGYPTIAN ASSAULTS
ON 15 OCT, BUT THESE ATTACKS WERE MINOR AND TENTATIVE COM-
PARED TO YESTERDAY'S EGYPTIAN ATTACK ALONG WHOLE FRONT

WHICH GOT BADLY MAULED. IAF AIRCRAFT AGAIN HIT EGYPTIAN TROOPS AND TANKS HARD. IRAQI, EGYPTIAN AND LIBYAN AIRCRAFT RAIDED ISRAELI AIRBASE AT BIR GIFGAF, DOING SOME DAMAGE. EGYPT MOVED MORE MISSILES ACROSS CANAL. ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER DAYAN STATED THAT ISRAEL'S ATTENTION WOULD INCREASINGLY TURN FROM SYRIA TO SINAI.

5. POLITICAL. THERE WAS NO VISIBLE PROGRESS ON POLITICAL EFFORTS TO END THE FIGHTING. IN CONVERSATION WITH SYG WALDHEIM OCTOBER 15, SYRIAN DELEGATE SAID SYRIA WAS NOT WILLING TO ACCEPT CEASEFIRE WITHOUT FIRM COMMITMENT FOR ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW TO PRE-1967 BORDERS. EGYPTIANS APPEAR ALSO TO BE ADHERING TO THIS POSITION, ALTHOUGH REPORTEDLY THEY STEPPED UP THEIR CONSULTATIONS WITH NON-ALIGNED MEMBERS OF UNSC OCTOBER 15. SADAT IS EXPECTED TO MAKE MAJOR SPEECH OCTOBER 16, HIS FIRST PRONOUNCEMENT SINCE WAR BEGAN.

6. GENERAL ASSEMBLY ELECTED IRAQ TO MEMBERSHIP ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM. IN ONLY SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE TODAY, EGYPT COMPLAINED ISRAELI WAR PLANES RAIDED THE NILE DELTA WITH 500-1000 POUND ANTI-PERSONNEL BOMBS MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED STATES.

7. USG ANNOUNCED IT HAD BEGUN RESUPPLY OPERATION FOR ISRAEL, POINTING OUT THIS STEP TAKEN ONLY AFTER INTENSIVE DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO END FIGHTING AND SOVIETS HAD UNDERTAKEN MASSIVE AIRLIFT TO ARABS. NEWS IS SPREADING RAPIDLY IN THE ARAB WORLD WITH EXPECTED ADVERSE REACTION. IT IS TOO EARLY TO PREDICT, HOWEVER, WHAT CONCRETE STEPS ARABS MAY TAKE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 204580

8. OIL. KUWAIT MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM ANNOUNCED THAT MEETING OF ARAB OIL MINISTERS TO DISCUSS USE OF OIL AS WEAPON IN FIGHT AGAINST ISRAEL HAS BEEN SCHEDULED OCTOBER 17. MEANWHILE, IN RESPONSE TO APPEAL FROM IRAQ OIL UNIONS, OIL WORKERS UNION AT TRIPOLI OIL TERMINAL HAVE REPORTEDLY DECIDED THEY WILL NOT LOAD U.S. TANKERS OR TANKERS TRANSPORTING OIL TO UNITED STATES. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MEMBERSHIP, PROGRESS REPORTS, GROUND COMBAT OPERATIONS, MILITARY CONTAINMENT, AIR COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE204580
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MSTERNER:P
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS TERNER
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731029/aaaaauzv.tel
Line Count: 163
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <23-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, XI, XF, IS, SY, IZ, JO, UR, UNGA, (HUSSEIN, KING)
To: ALL POSTS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005